

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UK, ZA, RH, BC, TZ, SF

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA AND PRIME MIN-
ISTER WILSON DISCUSS RHODESIA AND MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LONDON 11848

1. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA
MET WITH PRIME MINISTER WILSON ON SEPTEMBER 16 PRIMARILY
TO DISCUSS WHAT TO DO TO FOSTER MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.
TALK WAS FOLLOW UP TO AUGUST 11 MEETING BETWEEN
MWAANGA AND FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN AT GENEVA (LONDON
10349).

2. ACCORDING TO ROBIN BYATT, HEAD OF RHODESIA DEPARTMENT
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FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, MWAANGA GAVE WILSON

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT KAUNDA IN WHICH KAUNDA THANKED WILSON FOR RECEIVING MWAANGA AND EXPRESSED HOPES RE-CONTINUING ZAMBIAN-UK KIALOGUE ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

3. BYATT SAID THT MWANGA STRESSED ZAMBIA'S NUMBER ONE FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AT MOMENT IS TO HAVE SOUTH AFRICANS WITHDRAW THEIR SUPPORT FROM IAM SMITH REGIME, CRITICAL SUPPORT BEING SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS AND SOUTH AFRICAN ASSISTANCE TO RHODESIA IN EVADING SANCTIONS. HE ASKED WILSON TO PRESSURE THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO DO THIS. MWAANGA TOLD WILSON ZAMBIANS FELT DEVELOPMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE WOULD CAUSE QUICK TURN ABOUT IN IAM SMITH'S ATTITUDE AND FORCE HIM TO ADOPT MORE REAL-ISTIC LINE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH ANC LEADERS.

4. ACCORDING TO BYATT, WILSON TOLD MWAANGA THAT BRITISH DID NOT HAVE MUCH LEVERAGE WITH SOUTH AFRICANS BECAUSE OF POLICY ADOPTED BY LABOR GOVERNMENT IN FAVOR OF ARMS EMBARGO, CANCELLING CERTAIN NAVAL VISITS AND WITHHOLDING APPROVAL FOR EXPORT FOR DUAL-PURPOSE EQUIPMENT. WILSON, HOWEVER, OUTLINED TO MWAANGE MEASURES BRITISH HAD BEEN TAKING BOTH IN UK AND ABROAD TO TIGHTEN SANCTIONS.

5. ON MOZAMBIQUE, MWAANGA ASKED WILSON TO ASSIST THE NEW MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT IN THEIR EFFORTS TO HAVE AN ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVE TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE. MWAANGA ALSO ASSURED WILSON THAT FRELIMO WISHED TO HAVE "BUSINESSLIKE" RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA SUCH AS ZAMBIA HAS. WILSON CONGRATULATED ZAMBIANS FOR ROLE THEY PLAYED IN FACILITATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN FRELIMO AND PORTUGUESE; AND IN RESPONSE TO MWAANGA'S REQUEST, AGREED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE STATEMENT ENCOURAGING SMOOTH TRANSITION IN MOZAMBIQUE. THIS WILL BE DONE BY FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN IN HIS SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON SEPTEMBER 24.

6. COMMENT: AS RESULT DEVELOPMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE, AFRICANS ARE OBVIOUSLY MORE CONFIDENT THAT THINGS ARE GOING THEIR WAY IN RHODESIA, AND BELIEVE BRITISH CAN STILL PLAY KEY ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT NON-VIOLENT CHANGE TO MAJORITY
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RULE IN SALISBURY. NEITHER BRITISH NOR THEIR AFRICAN INTERLOCUTERS HAVE ANY NEW PROPOSALS TO OFFER, BUT BOTH ARE STILL COUNTING HEAVILY ON IMPETUS OF MOZAMBIQUE DEVELOPMENTS AND SOUTH AFRICAN DISENCHANTMENT WITH SMITH TO FORCE SMITH TO ENGAGE IN REALISTIC NEGOTIATIONS WITH BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS IN RHODESIA. END COMMENT.
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